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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Michael G. Siefe

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EXAMINER

GOTTSCHALK, MARTIN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3694

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/06/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### **Communication**

1. Claims 18-28 are pending in this application, per the amendment filed 02/21/2007 which cancelled claims 1-17 and presented the pending claims as new. These new claims were initially considered as describing an invention other than that originally presented, and an Office Action indicating a non-responsive amendment was mailed 05/02/2007. Upon reconsideration and in view of the fact that the new claims were filed with a Request for Continued Examination, the Examiner has decided that the newly claimed invention does not diverge widely enough from the original to preclude examination, and the new claims will be examined. This communication serves to vacate the earlier communication of 05/02/2007 indicating that Applicant's amendment was non-responsive.

2. Applicant is asked to note that the decision to vacate the previous communication indicating a non-responsive amendment is the result a close judgment, and that significant leeway is being granted to Applicant in this instance. As prosecution proceeds, Applicant is cautioned not to alter either the essential matter or scope of the invention presented in the currently pending claims such that the resulting claims are directed to a substantially different invention.

### **Conclusion**

Art Unit: 3694

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Martin A. Gottschalk whose telephone number is (571) 272-7030. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell can be reached on (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



MG  
06/04/2007



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